



CHAPTER XV.—(CONTINUED.)

From him he learned of the thorough precautions taken to intercept them, and of the dogged persistence of M. Pierre's belief in their vicinity. This man was outwardly among the most eager of M. Pierre's supporters, and was much in his confidence; and he assured Emile that it would be extremely hazardous to attempt escape for a month at least, although he was willing to do the best he could for them.

Emile heard his unfavorable account thoughtfully, and replied:

"I see plainly that I am a mix among you here. I will remain secreted with you through the day, and make my way back to my hiding place at midnight. The next night I will manage to get out on the high way, and do you give out publicly that you have received word that the Gray Falcon is coming down from Paris to stir up the populace of Frejus. Come and meet me, if you can, and introduce me to this Pierre. Let me gain the confidence of the majority and I think I can manage the matter."

Getting back into the forest was not so easy a matter; the change of guards had given control to a more faithful and vigilant set of men.

Emile was challenged twice, and giving some hasty excuse, saying he was a trusty citizen of Frejus out to look at the chateau ruins, was gruffly ordered back to the town.

He turned back a little way, and laid himself down among the bushes, just in sight of the pacing figures.

What must he do? Daylight was at hand, and it was absolutely necessary he should prepare his young charges for his absence, and acquaint them with his future plans. Lying prone on his face he crawled along, the reconnaissance showing him there was one spot at a projecting knoll where but one sentinel was stationed, and he hardly in sight of the others, when he turned the rather sharp corner.

Emile's mind was made up at once. He found a heavy stick, and in the same serpent fashion crept cautiously along on the ground toward the spot.

Having obtained the desired position he remained perfectly quiet, allowing the unconscious guard to pass three times over his head before he made any demonstration. On the fourth, as the man slowly moved around the point, he leaped to his feet, and in the twinkling of an eye tripped him up, and sent him sprawling some two or three yards away.

In the brief time required for the astonished man to gather himself up, Emile had darted into the wood. Away he sped, the swifter for the loud halloo of the sentinel.

He was familiar with every spot in the forest, and gained his object long before the aroused sentinels could follow him. He found his faithful friends anxiously awaiting his return.

Jules had recovered entirely, and he listened anxiously to the plans of Emile.

"It will do very well for me who shall have my old strength in a few days longer, but for your niece, for Mademoiselle Chlotilde, it would be more trying. But, why, indeed, should they bear any ill will to her?"

"Because she has lived in a noble family and was extremely attached to its members; because this wretch of an M. Pierre means to make her his wife, and she abhors the idea."

"Ah, indeed!" ejaculated Jules, gazing after the slender figure which had passed into the further room, which she had taken for her own private retreat; so sinfully gifted and refined a creature to marry that odious over-seer! The very idea is distressing even to me. Ah, Monsieur Emile, if you and your niece are impartial types of your class, I cannot help feeling humiliated that we have ever presumed to call others noble in comparison."

"Chlotilde has had superior advantages," observed Emile, quietly; "I doubt if the hapless Lady Felicie Langue-doc herself was more accomplished or graceful."

"I am sure I have not a moment's question about it," replied Jules, hastily; "none of the noble ladies I have ever seen could equal Chlotilde for loveliness or grace."

"The care of this retreat will devolve upon you in my absence. It will be safe to go a few yards from the tree at night, but no farther than that. I would not have you even venture to the spring. I will fill up the water casks before I leave. I am thankful for the few books I brought from the chateau; with them and each other's society, I trust you will not find your imprisonment underground too irksome."

"Oh, no, that is, I must speak for myself. It is a peaceful refuge from carnage and violence. But for past horrors and anxious fears of the future, I could not ask a happier life. Chlotilde, too, seems weighed down by some grievous recollection. I do not like to question her."

"Do not, I beseech you. Allow them to die away, if possible. It is worse than idle to dwell upon the past, since nothing can remedy it; and it weakens your vigor and energy for coping with future perils."

"I have endeavored to follow your directions. What more did you hear from Paris?"

"Additional horrors—the people have gone mad. They must become gorged with blood ere the reaction comes. I foresee that. Nevertheless, I

can see no other way than for us to get to Paris. It is the only place where this M. Pierre will not search for you and the girl he has declared shall marry him."

"But I shall be recognized by scores there," exclaimed Jules, with a shudder.

"I hope not. I shall find means to color that fair hair jetty black; you must wear it in another fashion. Garments, too, make a wonderful change; but of course you will keep as retired as possible."

Jules drew a long breath. "It seems to me I would rather be here forever, but I trust implicitly in your sagacity; I yield unquestioning obedience."

"Your health would suffer by long residence in this unsunned cave. I am already anxious about Chlotilde. The two weeks have paled her cheek badly. With extreme caution you might both go up to the surface every day. There are apertures in the trunk of the tree to take reconnaissance in every direction. Seeing the ground clear, you could venture out, though I warn you to be wary. If he be crafty, this M. Pierre will soon remove his watch from sight and set a secret trap. But I mean to get you both away speedily."

Felicie came from her room, and looked up affectionately in his face.

"You have talked with Jules long enough, my uncle; say something to Chlotilde now."

He drew his hand caressingly over the glossy hair.

"I have been telling him what good care he must take of my child when I am gone."

"Gone! oh, Emile!" exclaimed she, in consternation.

"For a little time, dear one, only to prepare for your escape."

The tears were slowly trickling down her cheeks, she could not speak a word of answer.

"Why, my little one, are you so stricken? Jules is left to take care of you."

"Jules is a very poor substitute for you, monsieur; no one is better aware of it than he himself, but he will do his best," observed the youth.

"Nay, nay," interposed the girl, eagerly. "I did not mean to wound your feelings, dear Jules; you are everything kind and good. As agreeable and pleasing a companion as I could ask, but then we have relied so thoroughly upon my uncle, it struck me with sudden dismay to think of losing him."

"For a little time, my child. It is because I fear for your health and am anxious to get you away, that I leave at all. You will not be weak and childish, I know, but will be calm and heroic, to help me all you can."

"I will try," replied she, firmly; but the sweet lips quivered sadly.

"And you will succeed. Jules must exert all his powers to divert your thoughts. You must read together, and tell fairy stories, and be good children till I return, like a good girl, to release you from your dungeon."

He smiled playfully, but there was a moisture in his eyes.

The three were silent a long time, and then Felicie broke it timidly:

"And when do you go, my uncle?"

"To-night at the darkest hour. I must fill your water cask from the spring before I leave."

They talked gravely over their plans and hopes until noonday: when Emile took his much-needed rest, and the youthful pair sat down rather disconsolately, it must be admitted, each with a book in hand.

Jules turned to the title page of the little volume of poems he held. A name was traced there in delicate handwriting—Lady Felicie Langue-doc.

"Ah," said he, "I should so much like to know just what she was, and how she looked, that poor Lady Felicie!"

His companion glanced over the volume to see what it was which fixed his thoughts, and smiled archly.

"Why are you curious? Did you know anything about her?" asked she.

"Why, yes. I knew that she was the sole heiress, the pride and hope of the chateau yonder, which lies in ruins. It was there, that horrible night, you know, that I was so wretchedly maltreated. But I did not see her, not even her corpse." He paused shuddering, and then added more calmly, "I should like to know just how she looked, just what was her character. The writing, you see, suggested the thought. I fancy I have a good idea, but I may be mistaken. If she resembled her father she was no beauty."

CHAPTER XVI.

ELICIE had averted her conscious face and was bending it down deeply into her book; she dare not pursue the subject, and presently he was lost in the contents of the volume.

Emile did not reappear until after dark, although in their subterranean dwelling night and day were alike, and the hours were most perceptibly marked by the shortening candles. Then he shouldered the one empty water cask, and clambered with it up the rude stairway.

He returned with it still unfilled, and tried to hide the cloud on his forehead.

"It's of no consequence. On second

thought, there can be no danger of your needing more water. You will be as prudent as possible, and I mean to relieve you long before you broach the last cask."

Neither suspected that he had attempted to reach the spring, and narrowly escaped capture.

He went back to the upper room, and listened there anxiously.

"I do believe it is the evil one himself; how else could he vanish so mysteriously?" said one wondering voice.

"The peasants say it was haunted long ago," said another, in equal astonishment.

"Peste! don't you know that was our own doing, citizen Pierre managed it? This is beyond belief, only for Pierre's assurance that the royalists are hid up somewhere here. Fire at it next time, and see what that will do," replied a third.

It was a long time before they went away, and then Emile anxiously listened for the direction of their retreating steps.

Who would have believed that obstinate Pierre would stick so closely to this idea? They will be sounding the tree next. I see plainly I must use my wits to get out. Ah, I have it! Where is my ghostly dress and light! I'll rig them on a pole with cross-arms and carry it in sight of these fellows and set it up. They'll rush forward, believing they have caught the man, and I can slip away unperceived. But I must go to the extreme end of the woods. It will not do to draw further attention to this spot."

And having matured his plan, he acted upon it promptly.

Carrying the effigy before him, he walked unmolested to the outer end of the wood. He heard the first shout of discovery and saw half a dozen forms come rushing toward him.

Setting the pole, which he had taken care to sharpen, firmly in the ground he slipped behind a tree trunk, and dropping on his knees crawled noiselessly over the mossy earth to the other side.

As he expected, the rush for the supposed capture left the picket line vacated; he lost no moment in clearing it, and as soon as he dared, sprang to his feet, and ran swiftly.

Extreme care was needed for more than a mile, but when morning broke he was safely in the highway. Once there, he brushed from his dress all signs of his late proceedings, and boldly hailed a market wagon passing on to Frejus.

Before he reached the town he met his comrade, who looked immensely relieved at sight of him.

"Welcome to the south, most valiant Gray Falcon! Where did you dip your beak last in the accursed blood of the aristocrat and tyrant?" exclaimed the latter.

"I come from Paris, and am sent south to kindle the zeal of the people for equality and liberty. How goes the cause?" responded Emile, while the driver of the wagon eyed him with open-mouthed wonder and a little fear.

"We have come bold spirits. There is worthy citizen Pierre, you will find him eager for the work; and we expect the famous Gray Falcon of Paris will wake us all up."

They proceeded slowly on till they reached the town. There in the market square they saw M. Pierre conversing earnestly with a group of men.

Emile's companion shouted to them: "Come hither—come and welcome the Gray Falcon. He has arrived at last on a special mission to us!"

The crowd in a moment surrounded them.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

PRINCE LOBANOF.

The Russian Press Eloquent Over His Great Qualities.

The Russian press is eloquent over the great qualities and splendid diplomatic triumphs of the deceased minister and statesman, says a correspondent of the London Times. The Novoe Vremya says: "The deceased belonged to the school of Boyar diplomatists, who have become so rare since the time of the Empress Catherine, and who possess strength of will and a many-sided European education, as well as knowledge of their own country and the strong support of hereditary connections. Such men have not been afraid of what other nations said of us and have believed in Russia's mission and right to play a great part among the other powers of Europe. Prince Lobanof belonged to that small class of Russians who know what they want and how to attain it. During his short tenure of office he isolated Japan, attracted Germany to co-operate with Russia and France, protected the integrity of China, effected a reconciliation with Bulgaria, secured full freedom of action to Russia in regard to Turkey, and strengthened the friendship with France." The same journal foresees the appearance of much unfounded comment in the foreign press on the possible consequences of Prince Lobanof's death and strongly urges its readers against the supposition that any change whatever in Russia's foreign policy will result from this great and unfortunate loss. Much is also said about the literary labors of the late minister, and it is curious to note that, although he appears to have accomplished so much in diplomacy in so short a period, he scarcely ever gave more than two or three hours a day to official business, the rest of his time being almost exclusively devoted to his favorite study of historical research.

Early Cotton Mill.

The first mill for manufacturing cotton yarns was located in North Providence, R. I., by Samuel Slater in 1793.

Not a single infectious disease is known in Greenland.

ASTROLOGICAL LOLE.

SIGNS OF THE PLANETS AT TIMES OF BIRTH.

They Do Not Exert an Influence Over Life, but Indicate Events Likely to Occur—Comes from the Egyptians.



HE planets do not exert an influence over life. Their position at the time of a person's birth only indicate what that life is likely to be. The science has come down to us from the earliest ages of man, and was one of the foremost arts in the days of the supremacy of Egypt. Two hundred years ago its revival began. Its progress has been steady, especially in England and the United States. The most enlightened minds of the century are giving it special study, and its popularity is again in the ascendant.

The free readings in these columns should not be confounded with fortune-telling. The most cultured in the land study astrology. No sensible person takes notice of fortune-tellers or fortune-telling. The popularity of our free readings attest the esteem in which the science is held. Letters come from physicians, lawyers, bankers and merchants. Applicants for readings are again reminded that full name and address of sender must accompany every letter. Also date, hour and place of birth. If the applicant does not know the hour of birth he or she should send for special instruction by mail.

Persons not wishing their readings published in regular order can have them forwarded by mail. Mail readings are sent on receipt of twelve two-cent postage stamps. Address Prof. G. W. Cunningham, Dept. 4, 194 South Clinton street, Chicago.

Following are the readings for this week:

W. S., Marionville, Mo.

According to data furnished you are a mixture of indications of both Leo, which the Sun rules, and Virgo, which Mercury rules, therefore the Sun and Mercury are your ruling planets or signifiers. You are medium height or above; medium to dark complexion, hair and eyes; there is a notch formed in the hair above the temples. You are ambitious, industrious and energetic, rather reserved in manners, and when a boy quite bashful; you take great interest in animals, especially a fine horse; you are quite studious and like to read up on scientific subjects. Your house of money is afflicted by Mars; this is warning that you should at all times be extra careful of finances and avoid hazardous speculation. Marriage more fortunate than average, and your wife was from an excellent family, yet in some way not so fortunate correspondingly as her ancestors.

Hazel S., Mechanicville, Iowa.

According to the data the zodiacal sign Leo, which the Sun rules, was rising at your birth, therefore the Sun is your ruling planet or signifier. You are above medium height, with a slender, wiry figure, and wide shoulders in proportion to the rest of the body; you are medium to light complexion, hair and eyes; the eyes are quite large and expressive. You have a sunny, cheerful disposition, and are recognized as a leader; you will always hold a good position in life and can make money in that way if no other, but you will, with ordinary care of finances, always have money, even if you do generously give lots of it away. You are proud and ambitious, and no small kind of business will gratify your ambition. You have splendid command of language and would make a good orator. You are gifted in one or more of the fine arts, and in this you would be quite original. You are very fond of the occult and mysterious.

C. A. R., Panama, Iowa.

According to the data furnished the zodiacal sign Sagittarius, which Jupiter rules was rising at your birth, therefore Jupiter is your ruling planet or signifier, the moon is on the ascendant and is cosignificator.

You are above medium height; slender, but well formed, and you will become stouter from this time on; you have dark complexion, hair and eyes; the eyes are very expressive and have a peculiar sparkle and sharp sight. You are cheerful, happy, jovial, kind and obliging; you are very humane, and considerably inclined towards the scientific; you are kind to animals, scientific; you are kind to animals, and very fond of horses, you have an intellect that denotes a special ability in the management of subordinates. Your house of money is afflicted, denoting that your money gets away very easily, and you have little left to show for it.

Note—Those who have sent in their stamps (26 cents) for readings by mail, will usually be promptly answered. In cases where there is an apparent delay the astrologer should be notified at once and the mistake will be rectified.

Rushing.

Hobbs (to friend in restaurant)—I say, Nobbs, how's business. Nobbs—Great; never saw such a rush. No time to sleep and even behind in meals. That was day before yesterday's lunch I just finished.—Tit-Bits.

Weyler's Warfare.

"Give me my writing material," said Weyler to his secretary. "Red or black ink, sir?" "Red, you fool! I'm going to fight a battle!"—Atlanta Constitution.

Pears were cultivated in most antique times in Asia and were brought from the East by the Romans. The first cherry tree in England was planted by Raleigh. Lucullus first brought cherries from Asia to Italy after his defeat of Mithridates.

American apples are having a great run in England. One firm reports selling in a single day 18,000 barrels. The United States will this year export to Europe, it is estimated 30,000,000 barrels of apples.

A Connecticut inventor has taken out in a little over a year seventy-three patents on automatic weighing machines, upon which the Patent Office fees alone amounted to \$2,555.

The Strongest Fortification Against disease, one which enables us to undergo unscathed risks from hurtful climate influences, exposure, overwork and fatigue, is the vigor that is imparted to a debilitated physique by the perfect medicinal safeguard, Hotter's Stomach Bitters. You may possess this vigor in a higher degree than the trained athlete, although your muscular development may be far inferior to his. Vigor implies sound, good digestion and sound repose. Two blessings conferred by the Bitters, which remedies malarial, rheumatic, nervous and kidney trouble.

Like the Salvation Army, the Church Army which Episcopalians are organizing in this country is an English institution.

Victoria Methodists have voted, 15,000 to 2,500, for the amalgamation of all the Australian Methodists into one body.

Cut Prices on Planet Jr. Goods. We are the only seedsmen daring to cut the prices on the Planet Jr. Tools. We sell the Planet Jr. Combined Drill, that other seedmen must ask \$9.00 for, we sell same for \$8.00. Big catalogue, send 5c. for postage. JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO., La Crosse, Wis.

There are 3100 women barbers and hair dressers in this country.

NO-TO-BAC FOR FIFTY CENTS. Over 404,000 cured. Why not let No-To-Bac regulate or remove your desire for tobacco. Saves money, makes health and manhood. Cure guaranteed, 50c and \$1.00, all druggists.

Germany has issued 6516 new books in a year.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25 cents a bottle.

Mexico is to have a \$3,000,000 cotton mill.

My doctor said I would die, but Piso's Cure for Consumption cured me.—Amos Kehler, Cherry Valley, Ills., Nov. 23, '95.

England has \$4,818 available seamen.

When bilious or costive, eat a Cascaret, candy cathartic, cure guaranteed, 10c, 25c.

Frisco has a Japanese physician.

The date palm in Arabia, the chief source of wealth and food. The Arab chief draws power, nerve and muscle from the consumption of his fruit. Pomegranates and olives also were anciently cultivated and are frequently mentioned in sacred writings.

Silk growing in France is greatly encouraged through the government bounty paid on the product. During '95, silk cocoons to the amount of more than 18,000,000 pounds received a bounty of 4,600,000 francs or almost \$1,000,000.

THAT SPLENDID COFFEE.

Mr. Goodman, Williams County, Ill., writes us: "From one package Salzer's German Coffee Berry I grew 300 pounds of better coffee than I can buy in stores at 30 cents a pound."

A package of this and big seed catalogue is sent you by John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., upon receipt of 15 cents stamps and this notice. w.n.

The only cathedrals now in use in Scotland are in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dunkeld.

Coc's Cough Balsam

Is the oldest and best. It will break up a cold quicker than anything else. It is always reliable. Try it.

Glasgow boasts of 10,766 Sunday school teachers and 115,731 scholars.

FITS stopped free and permanently cured. No fits after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Free \$2 trial bottle and treatise. Send to Dr. Kline, 501 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Whale beef is a Bermuda delicacy.

CASCARETS stimulate liver, kidneys and bowels. Never sicken, weaken or gripe, 10c.

Chinese makes cane horseshoes.



A Little Child With a Little Cold.

That's all! What of it? Little colds when neglected grow to large diseases and

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

CURES COLDS.

W. N. U.—WICHITA.—NO. 6.—1897.

When answering advertisements please mention this paper.

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REASONS FOR USING Walter Baker & Co.'s Breakfast Cocoa. 1. Because it is absolutely pure. 2. Because it is not made by the so-called Dutch Process in which chemicals are used. 3. Because beans of the finest quality are used. 4. Because it is made by a method which preserves unimpaired the exquisite natural flavor and odor of the beans. 5. Because it is the most economical, costing less than one cent a cup. Be sure that you get the genuine article made by WALTER BAKER & CO. LTD., Dorchester, Mass. Established 1780.

That Was Most of the Time. Encouraging. Madge—Husbands are like horses; not much good until they are well broke. Mrs. Spender (with a sigh)—Bless me! I certainly have the best husband in New York, if that's the case. Housekeeper—Goodness, what have you broken now? Little Help—A cup, mum. Housekeeper—And this morning you broke a saucer! Little Help—Yes'm; but I h'aint broke a plate yet.

1849-VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE-1897. Standard Seed and Plant Catalogue. Contains all that's New and Good. Always Reliable. THE GUIDE - - One packet either Wonderful Branching Aster, New Japan Morning Glory, or Pansy Choice mixed, for 15 CTS. and your Choice. Two packets 25c., three packets 30c. Full retail price 45c. VICK'S Illustrated Monthly Magazine which tells how to grow Plants, Flowers and Vegetables, and is up to date on these subjects, for 3 months, the Guide and One packet of Seeds (named above) for 25 cents. Every tenth person sending an Order as above will receive a coupon good for 50 cents worth of Seed free. When ordering state where you saw this ad, and we will send a packet of Flower Seeds free. JAMES VICK'S SONS, ROCHESTER, N. Y. VICK'S ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE

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